

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 remain in the application for further prosecution. Claims 1 and 4-19 have been currently amended. Claim 20 has been currently added.

No new matter has been added. For exemplary support in the specification, please see ¶¶ 0024-0025 regarding pay lines and ¶ 0048 regarding pay and probability tables for the basic game and the bonus game.

§ 102 Rejections

Claims 1-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0157981 to Marks ("Marks").

Personal Interview and Interview Summary

Applicant notes with appreciation the interview with Examiner John Hotaling on October 18, 2007. Pursuant to the discussions in the interview, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 10 to clarify the invention.

During the interview, the Examiner stated that he would consider proposed claim amendments.

Independent Claims 1 and 10

Independent claims 1 and 10 have been amended to further clarify that a player wagers on a pay line, not on a symbol. Additionally, at least some of the dependent claims have been amended to further clarify that the wagering game includes a basic wagering game having a pay structure in accordance with a basic pay table, and a bonus wagering game having a pay structure in accordance with one or more bonus pay tables.

Marks fails to disclose the claimed invention that is set forth in the amended claims. For example, Marks fails to disclose any pre-defined pay lines that are associated with Marks' wagering game, or that the wagering game uses different pay tables in a basic game and a bonus game. In fact, Marks' wagering game calls for awards to be made if the same symbols make some type of adjacent symbol set arrangement, not if the symbols are aligned along pre-defined pay lines. Additionally, Marks's wagering game uses a single pay table.

Accordingly, Applicant believes that claims 1-20 are allowable.

Conclusion

It is Applicant's belief that all the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and thus reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

A check for \$460 is enclosed for a two-month extension of time fee. It is believed that no other fees are due; however, should any additional fees be required (except for payment of the issue fee), the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Nixon Peabody LLP Deposit Account No. 50-4181, Order No. 247079-000263USPT.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



Sorinel Cimpoes

Reg. No. 48,311

NIXON PEABODY LLP

161 North Clark Street, 48th Street

Chicago, Illinois 60601-3213

(312) 425-8542

Attorney for Applicant